

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 256

By Ketron

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Staff Sergeant Marcus A. Golczynski, United States Marine Corps.

WHEREAS, our nation was conceived by individuals who were willing to sacrifice their personal safety and concerns to ensure our individual and collective freedom, and the Volunteer State is especially proud to be the home of so many valiant men and women who have performed above and beyond the call of duty; and

WHEREAS, thousands of Tennesseans have continued this time-honored tradition of volunteerism through service in the Armed Forces, including the United States Marine Corps; sadly, many of these honored defenders of our nation and its liberties have fallen in battle throughout our country's history; and

WHEREAS, on March 27, 2007, Staff Sergeant Marcus A. Golczynski, United States Marine Corps, died from wounds he sustained while conducting combat operations in Al Anbar province, Iraq, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom; he was 30 years old; and

WHEREAS, Marcus Golczynski, or "Sergeant Ski" as he was fondly called, was assigned to Marine Forces Reserve's 3rd Battalion, 24th Marine Regiment, 4th Marine Division, Nashville, and was two weeks away from returning to the United States after completing his second term in Iraq; and

WHEREAS, the beloved son of Elaine Huffines and Henry Golczynski of Murfreesboro, Marcus Golczynski was also a cherished father and friend; and

WHEREAS, those who knew Marcus Golczynski best describe him as charming, witty, and funny; he enjoyed making his loved ones laugh by walking into doors and falling "up" the stairs; and

WHEREAS, "Sergeant Ski" also loved serving his country and serving people, and expressed his convictions recently in a letter: "...please don't feel bad for us. We are warriors. And as warriors have before us, we joined this organization and are following orders because

we believe what we are doing is right. Many of us volunteered to do this a second time due to our deep desire to finish the job we started. We fight and sometimes die, so our families don't have to. Stand beside us. Because we would do it for you. It is our unity that has enabled us to prosper as a nation"; and

WHEREAS, Staff Sergeant Golczynski served with great courage and gallantry, giving his life for his country and for the cause in which he believed, and for that ultimate sacrifice, he deserves proper recognition; as a member of the United States Marine Corps, he proudly continued an essential tradition of American society: the concept of citizen-soldier; and

WHEREAS, Marcus A. Golczynski's dedication to excellence in the military and his love of his family, his fellow soldiers, and his country, exemplified in his sacrifice of life itself in defense of all that he held dear, stand as enduring examples of all the characteristics that have ensured the continued freedom of our nation and the preservation of its ideals over the course of our history; and

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly are proud to join with the United States Marine Corps, the citizens of Murfreesboro, the State of Tennessee, and the United States of America in honoring the memory of a fallen son; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor the memory of Staff Sergeant Marcus A. Golczynski, reflecting upon his heroic sacrifice of his life as a member of the United States Marine Corps and expressing to his family our sorrow for their loss and our gratitude for his commitment to the cause of freedom.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.